

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 ACDA-19 DPW-01 IO-12 EUR-25 SCA-01 SCS-03 SR-02

ORM-03 RSR-01 /166 W

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P 241140 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2144

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9197

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SITREP, MAY 24, 1973

FOL SENT ACTION SAIGON AND RPTD YOU FOR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0542

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SIT REP, MAY 24

1. SECURITY SITUATION. TOTAL OF 11 INCIDENTS REPORTED OVER LAST 24- HOUR PERIOD INCLUDING: THREE VC ATTACKS ON RVNAF OUTPOSTS, THREE VC HARASSMENTS BY FIRE, TWO RVNAF OPERATIONS LEADING TO CAPTURE OF VC, TWO VC MININGS, AND ONE INCIDENT OF VC FIRING ON VNAF HELICOPTER. EIGHT ACTIONS OCCURRED IN BINH DINH AND ONE EACH IN KHANH HOA, PHU YEN, AND PLEIKU. CASUALTY AGGREGATES: VC: FOUR KIA, TWO CAPTURED; RVNAF: ONE KIA; NINE WIA. ONE CIVILIAN WAS KILLED AND TWO WERE WOUNDED BY VC MINE IN PHU YEN. (NHA TRANG MR-2 BRIEFING AM MAY 24 AGAIN FAILED TO MENTION

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ACTION IN KONTUM REPORTED RECENT SITREPS AND NHA TRANG 538.)

2. PRISONER RELEASE. PHU YEN SECTOR REPORTS VC RELEASED SEVEN SOLDIERS (SIX ARVN AND ONE RF) IN AN CHAN VILLAGE, TUY HOA DISTRICT MAY 23. RELEASES WERE MADE UP OF ONE ARVN PARATROOPER CAPTURED IN QUANG TRI IN 1972, ONE RF SOLDIER FROM 67 TH RF GROUP CAPTURED NEAR PLEIKU IN 1972, AND FIVE ARVN SOLDIERS OF 47 TH REGIMENT CAPTURED IN PHU YEN IN MAY 1972. ALL RELEASED SOLDIERS CARRIED A RELEASE PAPER SIGNED BY VC SECRETARY OF PHU YEN PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE DATED JAN 73. MOTIVE BEHIND RELEASE IS NOT CLEAR. ACCORDING TO SECTOR S-2, RELEASE IS APPARENTLY UNILATERAL MOVE BY VC AND NOT RPT NOT RELATED TO ENEMY TURN- OVER OF FIVE CIVILIANS ORIGINALLY SLATED FOR APRIL 30 IN TUY AN DISTRICT BUT POSTPONED SEVERAL TIMES SINCE.

3. ICCS. ON MAY 23 THE ICCS BAN ME THUOT SUB- REGIONAL TEAM WENT TO LOOK AT THE SITE WHERE AN ALLEGED VC CEASE- FIRE VIOLATION ON APRIL 12 (SEE NHA TRANG 397 REPEATED TO SECSTATE AS SAIGON 6491, PARA 5) RESULTED IN THE KILLINGS OF NINE PERSONS INCLUDING CIVILIAN LOGGERS AND THE DESTRUCTION OF ONE LOGGING TRUCK. CANDEL TOLD OUR DARLAC POLOFF THAT ONE OF THE TWO PERSONS WHO SURVIVED THE INCIDENT IDENTIFIED THE AREA FOR THE TEAM. WITNESSES WERE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE ICCS TEAM ON MAY 24. CANDEL IS IN THE CHAIR AND DETERMINED TO PUSH THE INVESTIGATION THROUGH BUT IS AWARE THAT THE FINAL RESULT WILL BE THE USUAL TWO TO TWO STAND- OFF. CANDEL CRITICIZED GVN STAFF WORK IN SUPPORT OF ICCS INVESTIGATIONS REQUESTED BY THEM AS NOT RPT NOT BEING OF VERY HIGH QUALITY.

4. RESETTLEMENT. IN DARLAC RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM DAM SAN CAMP (NHA TRANG 537, PARA 10) CONTINUED ON MAY 23. FURTHER 152 FAMILIES COMPRISING 612 PERSONS WERE MOVED TO BUON HANG 2 SITE BRINGING TWO- DAY TOTAL TO 257 FAMILIES AND 1003 PERSONS AT RESETTLEMENT AREA. MOST IMMEDIATE NEED IS ROOFING SO THAT HOUSE BUILDING CAN GO ON. PROVINCE CHIEF (PC) SPENT MOST OF MAY 23 AT SITE INSPIRING SOLDIERS TO CUT LOGS AND BAMBOO FOR HOUSES. ACCORDING TO DARLAC POLOFF, PC IS DEVOTING MAJOR PART OF HIS ENERGY AND TIME TO THIS RESETTLEMENT PROJECT.

5. VILLAGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS: POLOFF BINH THUAN REPORTS THAT VILLAGE COUNCIL ELECTION CAMPAIGN CONTINUES IN 17 BINH THUAN

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VILLAGES. ON MAY 23 FIVE OF 20 PHAN THIET CANDIDATES SPOKE AT MARKET TO ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE OF OVER A HUNDRED CONSISTING OF FISHWIVES, SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, WHARF URCHINS, AND AN OCCASIONAL CRACKER BARREL PHILOSOPHER TYPE.

6. DEMOCRACY PARTY. ARRO REP PLEIKU REPORTS THAT DR. BUI TRONG CAN, PLEIKU CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRACY PARTY, IS PLANNING

AN ELABORATE CERMONY, COMPLETE WITH BUFFALO SACRIFICE AND TOASTS IN BLOOD, TO MARK THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY 3,000 FORMER MEMBERS OF THE MONTAGNARD SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT (MSM) AS THEY JOIN THE DEMOCRACY PARTY. THE RITES, ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR MAY 26, HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN POSTPONED PENDING THE CONVENIENCE OF PRESIDENT THIEU OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE AND THE MINISTER OF ETHNIC MINORITIES WHO WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.

7. THE MSM WAS FORCED TO DISBAND BECAUSE OF ITS INABILITY TO CONFORM TO DECREE LAW 060 CRITERIA FOR POLITICAL PARTIES AND DR. CAM AND MR. RAHLAN BEO, FORMER DEPUTY PROVINCE CHIEF FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES AND PRESENT PLEIKU DEMOCRACY PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN, CONVINCED THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP TO JOIN THE DEMOCRACY PARTY EN MASSE. PROVINCE CHIEF NOW EXPECTS CEREMONY TO TAKE PLACE IN EARLY JUNE. DUNLOP UNQTE
WHITEHOUSE

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